

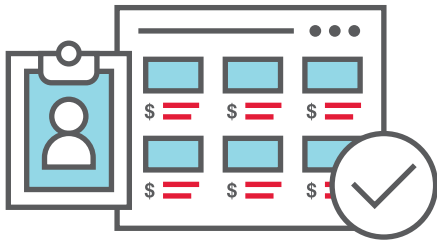
Promoting Accountability and Transparency to Combat Organized Retail Crime

Organized Retail Crime (ORC) is one of the top challenges facing retailers today. According to a 2019 survey by the National Retail Federation (NRF), two-thirds of retailers say ORC is a higher priority compared to five years ago. This growing threat has resulted in significant financial losses for the retail industry. In the same NRF survey, retailers reported average losses of \$700,000 per \$1 billion dollars in sales over a 12-month period due to ORC.

ORC has evolved beyond shoplifting and petty theft to the sale of stolen and counterfeit goods online. The emergence of largely unregulated online marketplaces and third party sellers have given criminals and ORC groups additional means to sell stolen and illegitimate goods, further eroding retailers' bottom lines and putting consumers' safety at risk.

Legislative Solutions

Legislative solutions are needed to mitigate the online sale of stolen and counterfeit products and to promote **transparency and accountability**—ensuring consumers have trust in the safety and quality of the products they purchase online. We support legislative solutions that include two key principles, including:



Promoting accountability

Online marketplaces should be accountable for the activity on their platforms and ensure only legitimate goods are sold by verified sellers.



Promoting transparency

Consumers deserve to know from whom and where they are buying products in order to make safe, informed purchasing decisions for themselves and their families.

Trust and Safety are Paramount

As retailers, **trust and safety** are two of the most important values in our relationship with consumers and employees. The rise of ORC-related activities raise significant safety concerns, as ORC groups are becoming more aggressive while stealing products on store property. Over time, concerted efforts to combat this problem will result in safer environments within our stores and online.

We Urge Congress

To explore legislative pathways aimed at ensuring online marketplaces are accountable for their platforms and to consumers.

